

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-16 (Canceled)

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): A fuel container made of a layered structure, the layered structure at least comprising:

a barrier layer made of a barrier resin (A); and

an outer layer made of a thermoplastic resin (B) that is different from the barrier resin (A) [[:]] ,

wherein the fuel container is provided with an opening through its body, wherein a cutting face of a layer at the opening is covered by a barrier member made of a barrier material (C), ~~and~~ wherein the layer covered by the barrier member is located on the outside with respect to the barrier layer, and

wherein the barrier member is exposed to the opening space, or the barrier member and the barrier layer are exposed to the opening space.

Claim 18 (Original): The fuel container of claim 17, comprising:

an intermediate layer serving as the barrier layer; and

an inner layer and an outer layer made of the thermoplastic resin (B).

Claim 19 (Original): The fuel container of claim 17, wherein an adhesive resin layer is located between the barrier layer and the layer made of the thermoplastic resin (B).

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The fuel container of claim 17, wherein a gasoline permeation amount (measured at 40°C and 65% RH) of the barrier resin (A) is at most $100\text{g} \cdot 20\mu\text{m}/\text{m}^2 \cdot \text{day}$.

Claim 21 (Original): The fuel container of claim 17, wherein the barrier resin (A) is at least one selected from the group consisting of polyvinyl alcohol resins, polyamides, and aliphatic polyketones.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The fuel container of claim 17, wherein the thermoplastic resin (B) is high-density polyethylene.

Claim 23 (Currently Amended): The fuel container of claim ~~17~~ 20, wherein a gasoline permeation amount (measured at 40°C and 65% RH) of the barrier material (C) is at most $400\text{g} \cdot 20\mu\text{m}/\text{m}^2 \cdot \text{day}$.

Claim 24 (Original): The fuel container of claim 17, wherein the barrier material (C) is at least one selected from the group consisting of metal foil, epoxy resin, polyvinylidene chloride resin, polyvinylalcohol resin, polyamide resin, polyester resin, and fluorocarbon resin.

Claim 25 (Original): The fuel container of claim 17, wherein the barrier member covers the cutting face via an adhesive.

Claim 26 (Original): The fuel container of claim 17, wherein a pinch-off part of the fuel container is covered with a barrier member.

Claim 27 (Original): The fuel container of claim 17, wherein a component for fuel containers is mounted onto the opening portion.

Claim 28 (Currently Amended): A fuel container made of a layered structure, the layered structure at least comprising:

a barrier layer made of a barrier resin (A); and

an outer layer made of a thermoplastic resin (B) that is different from the barrier resin

(A) [[:]] ,

wherein the fuel container is provided with an opening, a cut-out or a groove is provided at around the opening in an outer surface of the outer layer of the fuel container ~~around the opening such that the cut-out or the groove does not extend completely through the outer layer~~, and the cut-out or the groove is covered or filled with a barrier member made of a barrier material (C); and

wherein the barrier layer is exposed to the opening space.

Claim 29 (Original): The fuel container of claim 28, comprising:

an intermediate layer serving as the barrier layer; and

an inner layer and an outer layer made of the thermoplastic resin (B).

Claim 30 (Original): The fuel container of claim 28, wherein an adhesive resin layer is located between the barrier layer and the layer made of the thermoplastic resin (B).

Claim 31 (Original): The fuel container of claim 28, wherein a gasoline permeation amount (measured at 40°C and 65% RH) of the barrier resin (A) is at most $100\text{g} \cdot 20\mu\text{m}/\text{m}^2 \cdot \text{day}$.

Claim 32 (Original): The fuel container of claim 28, wherein the barrier resin (A) is at least one selected from the group consisting of polyvinyl alcohol resins, polyamides, and aliphatic polyketones.

Claim 33 (Original): The fuel container of claim 28, wherein the thermoplastic resin (B) is high-density polyethylene.

Claim 34 (Currently Amended): The fuel container of claim ~~28~~ 31, wherein a gasoline permeation amount (measured at 40°C and 65% RH) of the barrier material (C) is at most $400\text{g} \cdot 20\mu\text{m}/\text{m}^2 \cdot \text{day}$.

Claim 35 (Original): The fuel container of claim 28, wherein the barrier material (C) is at least one selected from the group consisting of metal foil, epoxy resin, polyvinylidene chloride resin, polyvinylalcohol resin, polyamide resin, polyester resin, and fluorocarbon resin.

Claim 36 (Original): The fuel container of claim 28, wherein the barrier member covers the cutting face, cut-out or groove via an adhesive.

Claim 37 (Original): The fuel container of claim 28, wherein a pinch-off part of the fuel container is covered with a barrier member.

Claim 38 (Original): The fuel container of claim 28, wherein a component for fuel containers is mounted onto the opening portion.

Claim 39 (Previously Presented): The fuel container of claim 38, wherein the component for fuel containers is a barrier member made of the barrier material (C), and the cut-out or groove is covered by mounting the component for fuel containers.

Claim 40 (Original): The fuel container of claim 28, wherein the cut-out or groove provided in the outer surface around the opening completely surrounds the opening.

Claim 41 (Original): The fuel container of claim 28, wherein a depth of the cut-out or groove is 0.1 to 0.8 times an average thickness (Y) of the container body.

Claim 42 (Original): The fuel container of claim 28, wherein a depth of the cut-out or groove is at least 0.2 and less than 1 times a total thickness (Y2) of layers locating on the outside with respect to the barrier layer.

Claim 43 (Previously Presented): The fuel container of claim 28, wherein a ratio (Y2/Y) of total thickness (Y2) of layers located on the outside with respect to the barrier layer and the average thickness (Y) of the container body is at most 45/100.

Claims 44-45 (Canceled)